

Message Text

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TAGS: ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: EC CUSTOMS RECLASSIFICATION-- SEMI-CONDUCTORS

REF: A) ADAMS-JOHNSTON LETTER OF MARCH 26

B) ROHR/JOHNSTON TRANSMITTAL SLIP OF MARCH 14

C) JOHNSTON/ROHR LETTER OF MARCH 14

1. SUMMARY: AN OFFICIAL FROM THE TEXAS INSTRUMENTS COMPANY HAS EXPLAINED TO THE MISSION THE COMPANY'S POSITION ON THE SEMI-CONDUCTOR EX-OUTS NOW BEING CONSIDERED BY THE COMMISSION. HE EXPECTS TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEK. END SUMMARY.

2. A US-BASED OFFICIAL OF TEXAS INSTRUMENTS, NORMAN NEURITER, AND THE COMPANY'S LOCAL ATTORNEY, DON HOLLEY, DISCUSSED WITH THE MISSION ON APRIL 5 NEUREITER'S MARCH 25 LETTER TO ROHR OF COMMERCE (REF A), AS WELL AS THE SPECIFIC WORDING NOW BEING CONSIDERED IN COMMISSION COMMITTEES FOR CUSTOMS DEFINITION AND EXPLANATORY NOTES ON SEMI-CONDUCTOR DISCS AND WAFERS (REF B).

3. NEUREITER SAID THAT IT'S PRINCIPAL PROBLEM WITH THE DEFINITIONS NOW BEING CONSIDERED BY THE COMMISSION WAS WITH THE ELEMINATION OF ELEMENTS (CHIPS) FROM THE LOW DUTY CATEGORY. THE COMPANY HOPED THAT THESE COULD BE INCLUDED. IF THESE COULD NOT BE INCLUDED WITHOUT A LONG DELAY BEFORE PUTTING DISCS (WAFERS) IN A LOW

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DUTY CATEGORY, THE COMPANY WOULD NOT INSIST, BUT IT DID WISH TO HAVE THE "SLIGHT MODIFICATIONS" REQUESTED

ON PAGE 2 OF HIS LETTER (REF A).

4. NEUREITER CONSTRUED THESE SLIGHT MODIFICATIONS TO BE AS FOLLOWS: (A) AN EXPANDED LIST OF MATERIALS FROM WHICH DISCS (WAFERS) COULD BE MADE, I.E., GERMANIUM, ETC.; (B) AN INCREASE IN THE MAXIMUM DIAMETER OF DISCS (WAFERS), I.E., UP TO 12.7 CM, A SIZE WHICH MAY BECOME COMMON IN THE FUTURE: (C) LOW DUTY TREATMENT FOR CHIPS (WAFERS) CUT INTO QUARTERS.

5. NEUREITER AGREED THAT THE LAST PARAGRAPH OF HIS SUGGESTED EXPLANATORY NOTE, DEIFNING ELEMENTS (CHIPS) WAS NOT SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT FROM THE ORIGINAL FRENCH VERSION IN REF B. HE ALSO AGREED THAT SLIGHT MODIFICATION "C" WAS OF LITTLE IMPORTANCE IF ELEMENTS (CHIPS) WERE GIVEN LOW DUTY TREATMENT, BUT THAT IF ELEMENTS (CHIPS) WERE NOT GIVEN LOW DUTY TREATMENT A STRONG CASE WOULD BE MADE TO THE COMMISSION FOR SLIGHT MODIFICATION "C".

6. WE POINTED OUT THAT SLIGHT MODIFICATIONS "A" AND "B" MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO JUSTIFY SINCE THE COMPANY'S MEMORANDUM TO THE COMMISSION OF MARCH 1 (REF C) AS WELL AS THE COMPANY'S MEMORANDUM OF LATE 1972 HAD BOTH IDENTIFIED THE CHEMICAL COMPOSITION AND SIZE OF DISCS AND WAFERS IN PRECISELY THE SAME TERMS AS NOW BEING CONSIDERED IN THE COMMISSION (REF B).

7. THE MISSION OFFICER SAID THAT THE MISSION COULD NOT NOW TAKE ACTION SOLELY ON THE BASIS OF THE NEUREITER LETTER BUT WOULD EITHER HAVE TO AWAIT INSTRUCTIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT OR BE INFORMED BY THE DEPARTMENT THAT WE SHOULD ACT ON THE BASIS OF THE NEUREITER LETTER.

8. NEUREITER UNDERSTOOD THAT THE COMMISSION WILL BE ON VACATION THE WEEK AFTER EASTER BUT SAID HE WOULD STOP IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEK IN THE HOPE THAT WASHINGTON WOULD BE ABLE TO GET OUT INSTRUCTIONS PROMPTLY. MYERSON

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